

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-18, 21-23, 26-28, and 31-34 are pending in this application. In the official action, claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-18, 21-23, 26-28, and 31-34 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 11, and 31-34 have been amended. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-18, 21-23, 26-28, and 31-34 thus remain for consideration.

The claim amendments included herein are merely clarifying amendments and are not meant to change the intended scope of the claims. Thus, the amendments present the rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal, and they should be entered in due course. Moreover, the amendments are manifest, requiring only a cursory review by the Examiner, thereby providing additional ground for their entry.

Claim Objections

Claims 31, 32, and 34 were objected to as failing to comply with the formality requirements.

Claims 31, 32, and 34 have been amended. Applicant believes that the amendments to claims 31, 32, and 34 render the claims compliant with all formality requirements. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the objections to the claims be withdrawn.

§103 Rejections

Claim 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15-18, 21-23, 26-28, and 31-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Panasonic in view of Lawler et al.

Claims 4, 9, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Panasonic in view of Lawler et al. and further in view of Lemmons.

Independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 31-34 have been amended herein so as to respectively recite the feature: "when the user selects a future program, it is judged that the user desires to program the recording of the indicated program and

the display is automatically switched to a display frame showing detailed information about the future program." (Emphasis supplied.) Supporting disclosure for emphasized recitation can be found in the specification at, for example, paragraph [0044]. As a result and as an example, amended independent claim 1 now recites in part the following:

a display being operable to have displayed thereon in response to a control signal from [a] display controller ... representations of programs for a plurality of channels having a plural number of past programs ... a plural number of present programs ... and a plural number of future programs ...

means for enabling a user to select a desired ... program therefrom for programming a recording of the program or for watching or listening to the program ...

when the user selects a future program, it is judged that the user desires to program the recording of the indicated program and the display is automatically switched to a display frame showing detailed information about the future program.

It is respectfully submitted that neither Panasonic, Lawler, nor Lemmons discloses the above features now recited in claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 as presented herein is distinguishable from Panasonic, Lawler, and Lemmons - taken either individually or in combination - on at least this basis.

For at least reasons similar or somewhat similar to those previously described with regard to claim 1, it is also respectfully submitted that independent claims 6, 11, and 31-34 as presented herein are distinguishable from Panasonic, Lawler, and Lemmons - taken either individually or in combination.

Claims 3-5, 8-10, 13-18, 21-23, and 26-28 are dependent from one of the amended independent claims and, as such, are also distinguishable from Panasonic, Lawler, and Lemmons - taken either individually or in combination - for at least the reasons discussed above.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the official action have been overcome, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional rejections and/or objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,
Electronic signature: /Bruno
Polito/
Bruno Polito
Registration No.: 38,580
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,
KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP
600 South Avenue West
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
(908) 654-5000
Attorney for Applicant

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